Joint Federal travel Regulations for the Uniformed Services).

- (b) An agency may pay a reduced per diem rate, such as a standardized payment less than the maximum per diem rate for a geographical area. If a reduced or standardized per diem rate was not authorized in advance of the travel and the fees paid to a training institution include lodging or meal costs, an appropriate deduction shall be made from the total per diem rate payable on the travel voucher (see 41 CFR 301-7.12).
- (c) An agency may pay limited relocation expenses for the transportation of the employee's immediate family, household goods and personal effects, including packing, crating, temporarily storing, draying, and unpacking the household goods in accordance with section 5724 of title 5, United States Code (or, for commissioned officers of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in accordance with sections 406 and 409 of title 37, United States Code, and the Joint federal travel Regulations for the uniformed Services). Limited relocation expenses are payable only when the estimated costs of transportation and related services are less than the estimated aggregate per diem or actual subsistence expense payments for the period of training. An employee selected for temporary duty training may receive travel and per diem (or actual subsistence expenses) for the period of the assignment or payment of limited relocation expenses, but not both.

[61 FR 66193, Dec. 17, 1996; 61 FR 66821, Dec. 30, 1996]

# §410.404 Determining if a conference is a training activity.

Agencies may sponsor an employee's attendance at a conference as a developmental assignment under section 4110 of title 5, United States Code, when—

- (a) The announced purpose of the conference is educational or instructional;
- (b) More than half of the time is scheduled for a planned, organized exchange of information between presenters and audience which meets the definition of training in section 4101 of title 5, United States Code;

- (c) The content of the conference is germane to improving individual and/or organizational performance, and
- (d) Development benefits will be derived through the employee's attendance.

### §410.405 Protection of Government interest.

The head of an agency shall establish such procedures as he or she considers necessary to protect the Government's interest when employees fail to complete, or to successfully complete, training for which the agency pays the expenses.

#### §410.406 Records of training expenses.

Agencies shall retain, in such form and manner as the agency head considers appropriate, a record of payments made for travel, tuition, fees and other necessary training expenses for a reasonable period of time.

### Subpart E—Accepting Contributions, Awards, and Payments From Non-Government Organizations

### §410.501 Scope.

- (a) Section 4111 of title 5, United States Code, describes conditions for employee acceptance of contributions, awards, and payments made in connection with non-Government sponsored training or meetings which an employee attends while on duty when the agency pays the training or meeting attendance expenses, in whole or in part.
- (b) This subpart does not limit the authority of an agency head to establish procedures on the acceptance of contributions, awards, and payments in connection with any training and meetings that are outside the scope of this subpart in accordance with laws and regulations governing Government ethics and governing acceptance of travel reimbursements from non-Federal sources.

## §410.502 Authority of the head of an agency.

(a) In writing, the head of an agency may authorize an agency employee to accept a contribution or award (in cash